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# Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 OMB-01
TRSE-00 HA-05 ACDA-12 /084 W
----------044266 030635Z /23
R 020909Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0098
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
USLO PEKING

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, JA, PINT, KS, TW
SUBJECT: KANEMARU'S STATEMENT ON TAIWAN

REF: TOKYO 13490

SUMMARY: STATEMENT BY DEFENSE DIRGEN KANEMARU JULY 31 THAT JAPAN, ROK, AND TAIWAN WERE BOUND IN "COMMON FATE" IMMEDIATELY DREW STRONG REACTION AND WAS HASTILY RETRACTED. INASMUCH AS KANEMARU HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH OPPOSITION LEADERS, AND TOOK EARLY REMEDIAL ACTION, AND ALSO BECAUSE PRIME MINISTER DOES NOT WANT TO RISK ESCALATING LDP'S INTERNAL POWER STRUGGLE BY FIRING ONE OF TANAKA'S CHIEF LIEUTENANTS, KANEMARU WILL PROBABLY KEEP HIS JOB. END SUMMARY.

1. HAVING JUST FINISHED DISMISSING JSDF CHIEF OF STAFF,
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SHIN KANEMARU, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SELF DEFENSE AGENCY, MANAGED TO GET HIMSELF INTO SERIOUS TROUBLE WITH CONTROVERSIAL STATEMENT THAT "TAIWAN, ROK AND JAPAN FORM COMMUNITY BOUND TOGETHER BY COMMON FATE." KANEMARU TOLD AUDIENCE OF BUSINESSMEN AND JOURNALISTS IN TOKYO ON JULY 31 THAT DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN JUNE HE HAD TOLD SECDEF BROWN HE HOPED US WOULD UPHOLD ITS SECURITY

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COMMITMENT TO TAIWAN BECAUSE OF ITS "COMMON FATE" RELATION-
SHIP WITH JAPAN AND ROK. REMARK CONTRAVENES GOJ'S OFFICIAL
POSITION THAT TAIWAN ISSUE IS INTERNAL CHINESE AFFAIR AND
WAS ALL THE MORE CONTROVERSIAL BECAUSE IT CAME JUST AFTER
DIFFICULT JAPAN-PRC NEGOTIATIONS ON FRIENDSHIP TREATY HAD
RESUMED. (THUS FAR PEKING HAS NOT REACTED TO STATEMENT.)
2. PRESS WAS QUICK TO PREDICT FULL-SCALE POLITICAL
DONNYBROOK AND NO ONE WAS AT ALL SURPRISED WHEN SOCIALIST
PARTY CHAIRMAN ASUKATA SENT PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA WRITTEN
DEMAND FOR KANEMARU'S IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL.

3. ON AUGUST 1, AFTER TELEPHONE CALL FROM CHIEF CABINET
SECRETARY ABE, KANEMARU CALLED PRESS INTERVIEW AND ISSUED
RETRACTION. WHILE HE HAD INDEED EXPRESSED CONCERN TO
SECDEF OVER MAINTAINENCE OF US COMMITMENT TO TAIWAN'S
SECURITY, AND HAD SAID JAPAN'S OWN SECURITY CONCERNS WERE
RELATED TO TAIWAN'S, HE ADMITTED THAT HE HAD BEEN IMPRUDENT
TO SAY IN HIS SPEECH THAT TAIWAN, ROK, AND JAPAN HAD "COM-
MON FATE." KANEMARU ADDED THAT SECDEF HAD ASSURED HIM THAT
US WOULD OBSERVE ITS COMMITMENTS TO TAIWAN AND WOULD DO
NOTHING ADVERSELY TO AFFECT SECURITY OF ASIA.

4. COMMENT: AT THE MOMENT IT APPEARS AS IF KANEMARU WILL
AVOID FATE HE HIMSELF METED OUT ONLY LAST WEEK TO OUTSPOKEN
GENERAL KURISU. TO BEGIN WITH,KANEMARU'S MIS-STATEMENT WAS
OF A LESSER ORDER OF MAGNITUDE THAN KURISU'S SEEMING
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CHALLENGE TO CIVILIAN CONTROL. MOREOVER, APART FROM HIS
AUGUST 1 RETRACTION, HE ENJOYS GOOD RELATIONS WITH SENIOR
OPPOSITION PARTY LEADERS WHICH HE BUILT UP AS DIET POLICY
CHAIRMAN UNDER PRIME MINISTER MIKI,AND THEIR PUBLIC POS-
TURES NOTWITHSTANDING, KANEMARU'S FRIENDS IN THE OPPOSITION
DO NOT SEEM LIKELY TO PRESS VERY HARD FOR HIS HEAD. WITHIN
LDP, KANEMARU IS ALSO IN STRONG POSITION. HE IS SENIOR
LIEUTENANT OF LEADERSHIP RIVAL OHIRA'S CHIEF ALLY, TANAKA.
FIRING HIM MIGHT WELL LEAD TO ESCALATION OF PARTY LEADERSHIP
STRUGGLE WHICH FUKUDA DOES NOT WANT. ADDITIONAL FACTOR IN
HIS FAVOR IS THAT DIET NOT BEING IN SESSION WHEN ILL-
CONSIDERED REMARKS WERE MADE, GOVERNMENT WAS NOT IMMEDIATELY
PUT ON HOT SPOT. MANSFIELD

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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PERSONAL OPINION
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 02 aug 1978
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
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**Subject:** KANEMARU\'S STATEMENT ON TAIWAN
**TAGS:** MARR, PINT, JA, KS, TW, (KANEMARU, SHIN)
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6c2c0358-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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